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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AmcltA

Applicants: Daisuke SHINOHARA et al.

#7

Serial No.: 09/656,140

T.D.

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Examiner: T. Mauro Jr.

MAR 30 2004

Technology Center 2100

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 26, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 29, 2003, the period for reply thereto being extended by two months by the attached Petition for Extension of Time to expire on March 29, 2004, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Specification and Abstract are on page 2.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3.

Remarks are included following the amendments.